

Claims

1. A system for recording and playback of television signals from a plurality of television channels, comprising:

a computer-based controlling central unit, connectible to a
5 telecommunication network,

a plurality of television receivers, connected to the controlling central unit, for receiving television signals in each case on one of the television channels,

one or more coding modules, connected to the television receivers,
10 for coding the received television signals in a digital format,

the controlling central unit being set up to receive recording instructions from users via the telecommunication network, to store the received recording instructions, assigned in each case to a user identification for the respective user, and to store the television signals, coded in digital
15 format, which have been received on the television channel specified by the stored recording instructions, at a time specified by the stored recording instructions, assigned in each case to the user identification to which the respective stored recording instructions are assigned, and

a playback module for transmitting the television signals stored in
20 digital format via the telecommunication network, in each case for playback on a terminal of the user, who is identified by the user identification assigned to the respective stored television signals.

2. The system according to claim 1, wherein the controlling central unit is set up to transmit, in accordance with the stored recording instructions,
25 control signals in each case to one of the connected television receivers for activation of the respective television receiver and/or for selection of a television channel on the respective television receiver.

3. The system according to one of the claims 1 or 2, wherein the telecommunication network is a network based on Internet protocol, in that the playback module is set up to transmit the television signals, stored in digital format, in streaming mode via the telecommunication network to the terminal of the user.

4. The system according to one of the claims 1 to 3, wherein the controlling central unit is set up to encrypt the television signals, coded in digital format, with a cryptographic key in each case, prior to their storage, in that the system comprises an access control module for generating access rights to the television signals, stored in digital format, and for transmitting generated access rights, comprising the respective cryptographic keys, via the telecommunication network to authorized users, and in that the playback module is set up to receive access rights from users via the telecommunication network and, in accordance with the received access rights, to transmit the encrypted television signals, stored in digital format, to the respect user.

5. The system according to one of the claims 1 to 4, wherein the playback module is set up to transmit the television signals, stored in digital format, via the telecommunication network to the terminal in each case depending upon quality parameters of the terminal of the respective user.

6. The system according to one of the claims 1 to 5, wherein the controlling central unit includes stored television program information, and in that the controlling central unit is set up to receive from users as recording instructions via the telecommunication network identification data for telecasts and, in accordance with the received identification data, to store recording instructions, based on the stored television program information, with indications about television channel and telecast identification and/or starting time/ending time or respectively duration.

7. The system according to one of the claims 1 to 6, wherein the controlling central unit is set up to transmit, after successful storing of the television signals, coded in digital format, in accordance with the stored recording instructions, an electronic ready message via the telecommunication

network to the terminal of the user whose user identification is assigned to the respective recording instructions.

8. The system according to one of the claims 1 to 7, wherein the controlling central unit is set up to erase automatically television signals, stored
5 in digital format, after a defined period of time after their storage, and in that the controlling central unit is set up to transmit automatically, in each case before the automatic erasing, an electronic warning signal via the telecommunication network to the terminal of the user whose user identification is assigned to the respective stored television signals.

10 9. The system according to one of the claims 1 to 8, wherein the controlling central unit is set up to store only once, jointly assigned to the user identifications of the respective plurality of users, television signals, coded in digital format, which have been received at a time and on a television channel which are identified through consistent recording instructions from a plurality of
15 users.

10. The system according to one of the claims 1 to 9, wherein the television receivers are set up to receive digital and/or analog television signals via cable television networks and/or via television antennas for terrestrial television broadcasting or satellite television transmission, and in that the
20 controlling central unit and the playback module are each implemented on different computers connected to one another, the controlling central unit and/or the playback unit including memories for storing the television signals coded in digital format.